

**PATENT APPLICATION**  
**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re application of

Docket No: Q80972

Kenji OTOKITA

Allowed: September 18, 2008

Appln. No.: 10/823,794

Group Art Unit: 2625

Confirmation No.: 5343

Examiner: Marcus T. Riley

Filed: April 14, 2004

For: PRINTING METHOD, CONTROL METHOD, PRINTING APPARATUS, CONTROL APPARATUS, AND COMPUTER-READABLE STORAGE MEDIUM

**COMMENTS ON STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE**

**ATTN: MAIL STOP ISSUE FEE**

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Applicant makes the following comments on the Examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The Examiner's statement should not be misinterpreted as meaning that the identified features are the only patentable features in any of the claims. The independent claims and the dependent claims include various aspects which provide a separate basis for patentability. The Examiner's statement emphasizes certain aspects of the claims, but each claim should be interpreted using its own precise language, without inferring any particular emphasis from the Examiner's statement.

The claims are carefully written to precisely define the bounds of the invention, and persons reading these remarks hereafter should note that any difference between the Examiner's

language and the language of the claims should be resolved by recourse to only the express language of the claims.

Patent Office personnel are requested to note that the present submission does not adversely affect the patent term adjustment accrued by Applicant to date. As emphasized in the “Clarification of 37 C.F.R. §1.704(c)(10) – Reduction of Patent Term Adjustment for Certain Types of Papers Filed After a Notice of Allowance Has Been Mailed,” 1247OG111 (6/26/01), “a response to the examiner’s reasons for allowance” is an example of a paper that does “not cause substantial interference and delay in the patent issue process” and is “not considered a ‘failure to engage in reasonable efforts’ to conclude processing or examination of the application.” Therefore, the Applicant remains entitled to the full patent term adjustment set forth on page 3 of the Notice of Allowance mailed September 18, 2008.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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WASHINGTON OFFICE

**23373**  
CUSTOMER NUMBER

Date: October 17, 2008